# Restructuring and Bankruptcy Considerations

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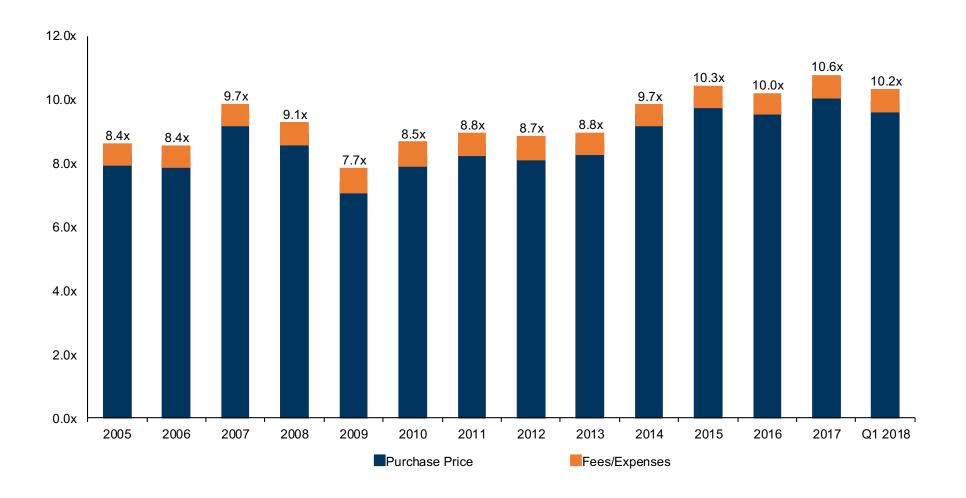
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# **Market Overview**

## Total Purchase Price for LBOs

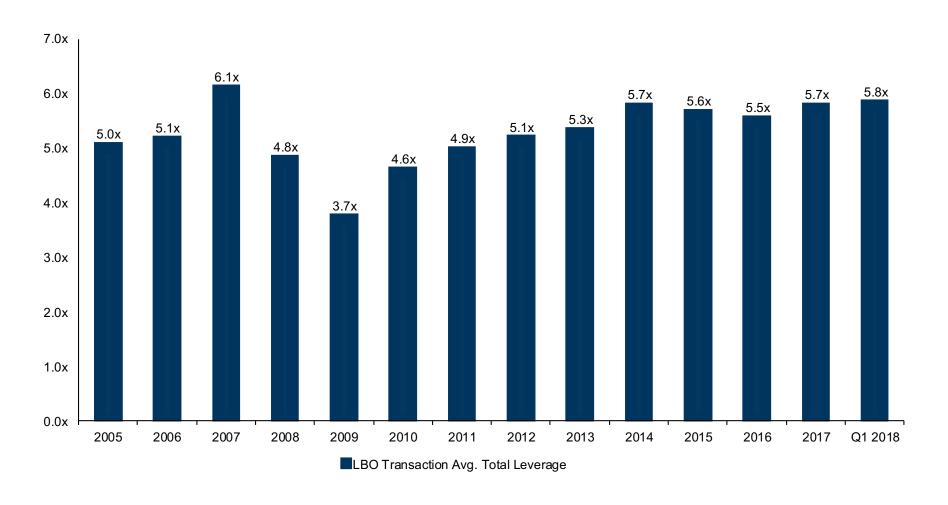
The Total Purchase Price for LBO transactions have steadily increased over the past few years and are now at all-time high levels



Note: Total Purchase Price includes Fees / Expenses paid

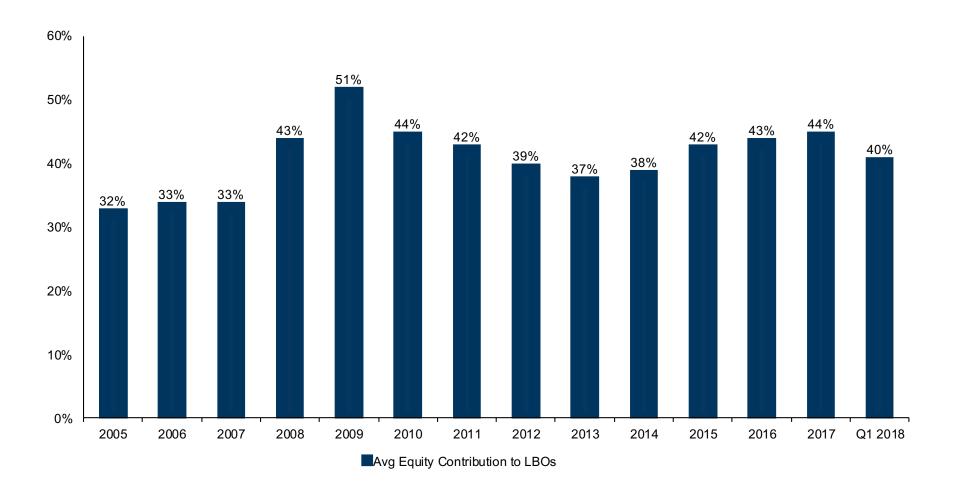
## Total Debt Leverage Multiples for LBOs

Total Debt Leverage for LBO transactions are now just below pre-crisis levels



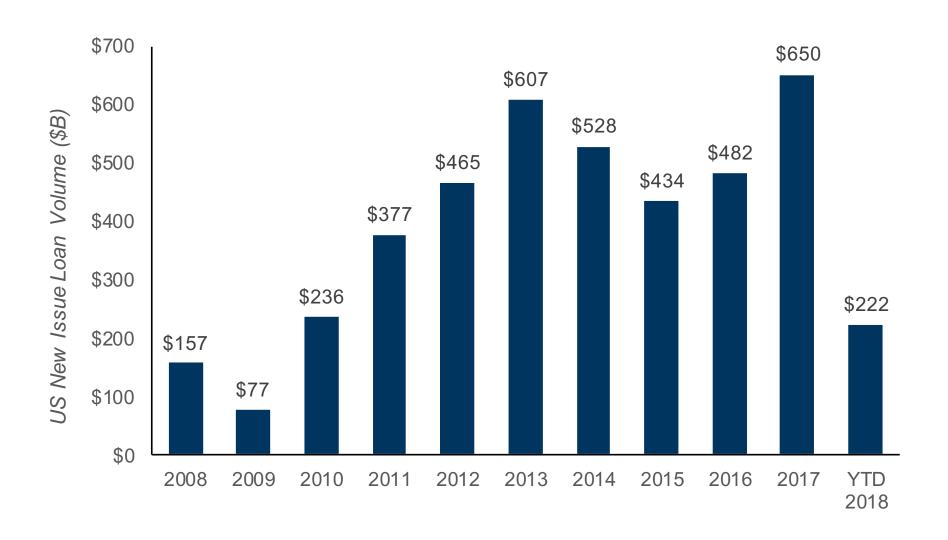
## Average Equity Commitments in LBO Transactions

In concert with elevated debt leverage multiples, LBO sponsors have been injecting higher equity contributions to pay for higher purchase prices



## New Issue US Loan Volume

#### Loan issuance in the US is at an all time high



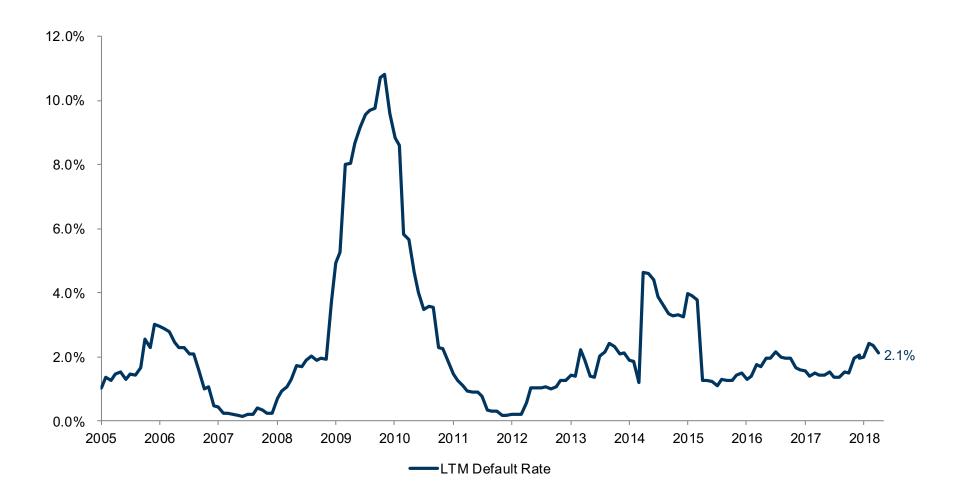
## New Issue US Bond Volume

High Yield Bond issuance has been relatively muted compared to the all time highs seen in the US Loan volume



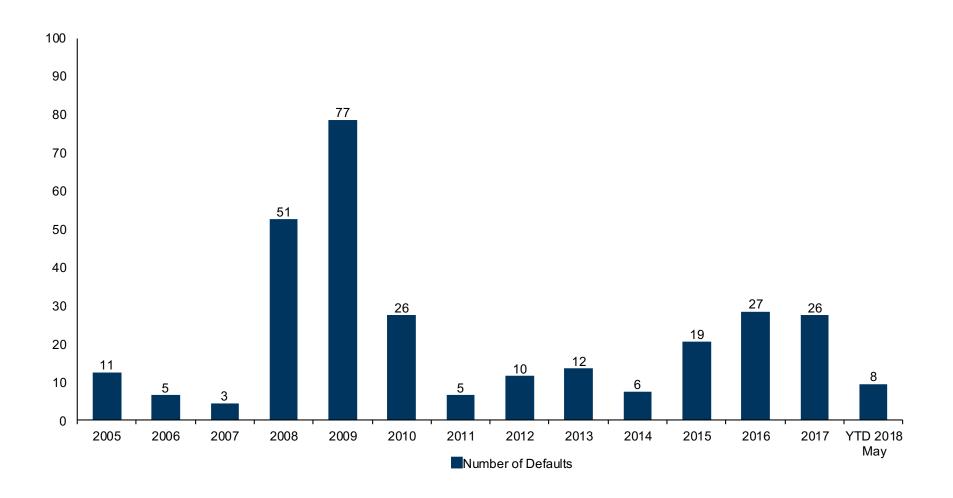
## LTM Default Rates

The combination of robust free cash flow generation, low interest rates, strong liquidity and limited near-term maturities has kept default rates near historic lows



## **Number of Defaults**

The absolute number of defaults has increased as industry sectors have experienced problems



**Key Restructuring Considerations** 

## Issues in Restructuring

#### Below are several common issues and pitfalls for creditors

- Assets moving between Borrower and Non-Borrower entities
- Cash and Collateral in entities outside of Creditor reach
- Assets moving to international entities
- Covenant-Lite Debt
  - 80% of all outstanding US leveraged loans in YTD 2018 was cov-lite

#### Liquidity is Key

- During a restructuring process, maximizing liquidity is the key goal
  - Liquidity buys time
  - Time buys options

#### Governance (Legal vs. Financial Ownership)

- Governance issues may arise when legal and economic ownership are in different hands
  - In-the-money Creditors: Can accelerate if there is a default and potentially cause value erosion for the Company, but still not suffer monetary damage
  - Fulcrum Creditors: Economic owners; most motivated to reach agreement quickly and preserve value by either selling the assets or converting debt to equity and taking ownership
  - Out-of-the-money Creditors: Hold-up value
  - Out-of-the-money Equity: Legal ownership and hold-up value
  - The wider ecosystem of employees and local community interests, etc. is rarely at the table

#### Strategy, Management, Operations and Capital Structure

- Too much attention is paid to the capital structure, but investors should also consider the Company's Strategy, Management and Operations
- Assessment of business strategy and whether it remains valid or should be reassessed in light of new market conditions
- Assessment of management's strengths and weaknesses
  - Wartime vs. Peacetime Management
  - Maximizing Cash Flow vs. Earnings
- Company's operational performance
  - Cost Structure
- Appropriate leverage for the emerging Company

#### Speed is key to a successful process

- Almost always, the most important thing to do in a restructuring or bankruptcy is to be as quick as possible
  - Management resources
  - Company reputation
  - Cost of the process
  - Play offense in the market
- Key component of a speedy restructuring is recognizing the problems early, and negotiating and reaching agreement with key stakeholders

### Considerations for Credit Investors

Owners of high-yield debt take on some equity risk; high-yield debt investors should be willing to own the underlying asset or sell to those who are willing to do so



